

THE VIRGINIA TEACHER

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EDUCATIONAL COMMENT

"ON THEM THE FUTURE DEPENDS"

Urging California not to let any part of its economy program interfere with educational efficiency, Arthur Brisbane, in his syndicated column "Today," remarks that the university pays for itself ten times over.

"Work done in its laboratories has increased by more than \$25,000,000 the yearly income of California dairies. Such work saves citrus orchards, improves cultivation and irrigation methods, creates a better human race.

"The state that has the best education will remain at the head of the procession and the wisest line among old Talmudic writings is this one:

"Jerusalem was destroyed because the schools were neglected."

"Fine highways are admirable, and great public buildings. But nothing is important when compared to universities and public schools, their faculties and teachers.

"On them the future depends."

The Spyglass, a quarterly periodical for children, has just been issued by the American Child Health Association, 450 Seventh Avenue, New York City. In addition to current information from scientific sources,

The Spyglass includes material of interest from history, geography, and civics.

Written for children in the upper elementary grades, the periodical aims to supply dynamic materials in health education. Each item challenges the curiosity of children to seek more information and to develop sound judgment in matters of healthful living.

Teachers will find it worth while to investigate this superior publication. The subscription price is 75c a year.

SEEN IN THE PUBLIC PRINTS

Division superintendents are now being selected by the various county school boards. Recent elections have included Leslie D. Kline, of Frederick county, reelected after having served sixteen years; William A. Vaughan, reelected in Caroline county after twelve years of service; John C. Myers, of Rockingham county, now entering upon his seventeenth year; Henry A. Wise, of Accomac county, who will begin his second four-year term next July 1. J. G. Jeter, division superintendent of Alleghany county for the past twenty-four years, has announced that he will not accept reelection.

"The Missile," student publication of the Petersburg High School, has continued its enviable record by winning second honors among more than a thousand school publications representing schools of from 801 to 1,500 student enrolment. The award was made by the Columbia Scholastic Press Association. In 1927 the Missile won first place, in 1928 second, in 1929 third, in 1930 first, in 1931 and 1932 second. H. A. Miller, jr., head of the English department, is faculty adviser of the publication.

"If the State's income is reduced by half, curtailment in total expenditure for government service must likewise be reduced," said C. J. Heatwole, executive secretary of

the Virginia Education Association before the District I section, meeting recently in Salem. "It is a simple matter for an executive to pick up his official knife, drive it through every department of government, and divide its expenditure for service into half without regard to essentials and non-essentials."

An International Relations Club has just been organized at the State Teachers College at Fredericksburg, following the plan laid down by the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace. The club, which consists of twenty-two members, was established through the efforts of the college's department of social sciences.

Miss Jennie Tabb, registrar of the State Teachers College at Farmville, was the special speaker at the Founder's Day Celebration at Farmville when the institution observed its forty-ninth anniversary. President J. L. Jarman participated in the program by singing a group of solos.

Graduates of accredited high schools in Virginia will hereafter receive a new and standardized diploma, recently approved by the State Department of Education.

The new diploma form, printed on artificial parchment, is $8\frac{1}{2}$ by 11 inches in size, or about one-fourth the size of the older diploma forms, and is in conformity with the definite trend in other states toward a small and attractively designed diploma for high school graduates.

The price of the old form of diploma lithographed on artificial parchment, was $16\frac{1}{2}$ cents each. The price of the new form on the same grade of paper is only 4 cents per copy. Charges for printing in the name of the school and the graduate is additional.

Thirteen different lithographers submitted bids for furnishing the diplomas and the lowest bid was submitted by Everett Waddey Company of Richmond.

Commenting on the action of the State Board in adopting the new diploma form, Dr. Sidney B. Hall, State Superintendent of Public Instruction, said:

"The final decision on the form and size of the new diploma was based on a report made by the committee of division superintendents. The accredited high schools are not required to use the new diploma form, but in the interest of economy and uniformity, I hope that orders for diplomas in any division will be sent through the office of the division superintendent of schools direct to the lithographers."

At Roanoke College a gymnasium, unused except on rare occasions since the completion of the new gymnasium in 1930, some money donated by the student-body of the college from its student activities fund, and student effort under the direction of the president of the dramatic club have resulted in the provision for a campus theatre in which the Harlequin Club will hereafter offer its dramatic performances.

The Junior Community League of the Whitnell Farm-Life School in Pittsylvania county has been active in enlarging and equipping the school library. Books were classified and catalogued and new equipment was installed in a reading room adjoining the library.

At a meeting of the Whitnell Community League, in celebration of the improvements made in the library, two students demonstrated the use of the filing cabinets and methods of repairing books in the reading room. They also explained the use of the bulletin-board and told how one book is displayed on this board at the rear of the reading room each week. Dramatization of a portion of "Little Women" was ably presented by the students, also.

For a companion I require one who will make an equal demand on me with my own genius.—*Thoreau*.